

Take home final exam
C23-1, Fall 1996

Grad students must take this exam. They are not required to take the in-class identification section. Undergrads can take this exam, but they are required to take the in-class identification section as well. This exam must be turned in by 9 am, Dec. 9. This when the rest of the final will be given. There is no late take-home exam. If you do not have it ready at 9 am you must take the entire in-class exam.

Choose one of the following. Write a cogent essay of at least 2500 words.

1. Histories of visual art and literature are frequently talked about in terms of a "canon"--a set of works which experts agree are suitable for representing the field. Often the canon is linked to aesthetic value--the "best" works are taught and held up for examination. Discuss the canon of experimental film. Who and what influenced it? What has caused it to be renegotiated? On what basis should it be constructed? Your answer should include some works seen in the course which you think should be in the canon and some you think should be outside of it (that is, assuming you think drawing boundaries is important). And you should discuss the basis for a positive aesthetic evaluation found in Sitney, Peterson, and Tyler.
2. Although it is complained that structural films are "all alike," we've seen a very wide range of them this quarter. Discuss the variety of structural film and how useful or valid Sitney's definition of it is. Discuss specifically: Shift, Poetic Justice, Serene Velocity, Doggie Diner and The Return of Doggie Diner, Marilyn Times Five (Conner) and T,O,U,C,H,I,N,G . Consider Peterson's analysis of Structural/Minimal film as well.
3. Read Susan Sontag's famous essay on Camp (in her Against Interpretation) and then discuss films seen in class that seem to fit a Camp aesthetic such as Weiners and Buns Musical, Flaming Creatures, and Hold Me While I'm Naked. Consider in your analysis also works that are comic and parodistic as well: What is a Man?, Entre-acte,

The in-class exam takes place Monday Dec 9 from 9-11. The first part (c. 40 min.) will consist of short answers covering films and readings for the class.

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#####ف The second part will be an essay that draws on films screened and readings from throughout the course. A short film will be screened, Scorpio Rising Include a consideration of Tyler's analysis of Camp. Schmeerguntz.

4. The avant garde is often identified with a rejection of the dominant society and its way of seeing things and its social values. Discuss five works seen in this class which represent this aspect of the rebellious or dissenting experimental tradition, and include Tyler's remarks on this subject as well.(or part of a film) not previously screened as part of the essay exam. such as#####

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